

NGC-195/22-0136

9

Remarks

Reconsideration of the application, and allowance of all claims pending are respectfully requested. With entry of the amendment presented herewith, claims 1-16 and 18-21 are pending in the application, claims 8 and 18 being amended, claim 17 being canceled and new claim 21 being added.

Allowable Subject Matter:

Claims 14, 16, 18, 20 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants gratefully acknowledge this indication of allowability, and have submitted the terminal disclaimer and made amendments necessary to overcome all outstanding rejections to the remaining claims in the application from which the indicated claims depend.

An indication of allowance of claims 1-16 and 18-21 is therefore respectfully requested.

Nonstatutory Claim Rejections

Claims 1-3 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-3 of U.S. Patent No. 6,574,285 B2. Submitted herewith is a timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c), to overcome the rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground, accompanied by a showing that

NGC-195/22-0136

10

the conflicting patent is commonly owned with the above-captioned application. The rejection is believed to be fully overcome, and its withdrawal is respectfully requested.

Claim 4 is rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 16 of U.S. Patent No. 6,574,285 B2. Submitted herewith is a timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c), to overcome the rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground, accompanied by a showing that the conflicting patent is commonly owned with the above-captioned application. The rejection is believed to be fully overcome, and its withdrawal is respectfully requested.

Claim 5 is rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 16 in view of claim 10 of U.S. Patent No. 6,574,285 B2. Submitted herewith is a timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c), to overcome the rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground, accompanied by a showing that the conflicting patent is commonly owned with the above-captioned application. The rejection is believed to be fully overcome, and its withdrawal is respectfully requested.

Claim 6 is rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 16 in view of claim 11 of U.S. Patent No. 6,574,285 B2. Submitted herewith is a timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c), to overcome the rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground, accompanied by a showing that the conflicting patent is commonly owned with the above-

NGC-195/22-0136

11

captioned application. The rejection is believed to be fully overcome, and its withdrawal is respectfully requested.

Claim 7 is rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 14 of U.S. Patent No. 6,574,285 B2. Submitted herewith is a timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c), to overcome the rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground, accompanied by a showing that the conflicting patent is commonly owned with the above-captioned application. The rejection is believed to be fully overcome, and its withdrawal is respectfully requested.

Claim 8 is rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 14 in view of claim 10 of U.S. Patent No. 6,574,285 B2. Submitted herewith is a timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c), to overcome the rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground, accompanied by a showing that the conflicting patent is commonly owned with the above-captioned application. The rejection is believed to be fully overcome, and its withdrawal is respectfully requested.

Claim 9 is rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 14 in view of claim 11 of U.S. Patent No. 6,574,285 B2. Submitted herewith is a timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c), to overcome the rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground, accompanied by a showing that the conflicting patent is commonly owned with the above-

NGC-195/22-0136

12

captioned application. The rejection is believed to be fully overcome, and its withdrawal is respectfully requested.

Claim 10 is rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 12 of U.S. Patent No. 6,574,285 B2. Submitted herewith is a timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c), to overcome the rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground, accompanied by a showing that the conflicting patent is commonly owned with the above-captioned application. The rejection is believed to be fully overcome, and its withdrawal is respectfully requested.

Claim 11 is rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 12 in view of claim 10 of U.S. Patent No. 6,574,285 B2. Submitted herewith is a timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c), to overcome the rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground, accompanied by a showing that the conflicting patent is commonly owned with the above-captioned application. The rejection is believed to be fully overcome, and its withdrawal is respectfully requested.

Claim 12 is rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 12 in view of claim 11 of U.S. Patent No. 6,574,285 B2. Submitted herewith is a timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c), to overcome the rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground, accompanied by a showing that the conflicting patent is commonly owned with the above-

NGC-195/22-0136

13

captioned application. The rejection is believed to be fully overcome, and its withdrawal is respectfully requested.

Claims 13 and 17 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 16 in view of claim 18 of U.S. Patent No. 6,574,285 B2. Submitted herewith is a timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c), to overcome the rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground, accompanied by a showing that the conflicting patent is commonly owned with the above-captioned application. The rejection is believed to be fully overcome, and its withdrawal is respectfully requested.

Claim 15 is rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 27 of U.S. Patent No. 6,574,285 B2. Submitted herewith is a timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c), to overcome the rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground, accompanied by a showing that the conflicting patent is commonly owned with the above-captioned application. The rejection is believed to be fully overcome, and its withdrawal is respectfully requested.

Provisional Claim Objection - 37 CFR. § 1.75

Claim 17 is indicated as being objected to under 37 CFR § 1.75 as being a substantial duplicate of claim 13, should claim 13 be found allowable. As set out above, claim 13 is believed to be allowable with filing of a proper terminal disclaimer, and accordingly the provisional

NGC-195/22-0136

14

objection to claim 17 has been addressed by canceling claim 17 and adding claim 21 which depends from claim 13. In claim 21, the step of converting data in the data stream into symbols is claimed as comprising the step of converting data in the data stream into bit symbols. Any objection to claim 17 is believed to have been fully overcome, and new claim 21 is believed to be allowable. Allowance of claim 21 is respectfully requested.

Claim Objection - 37 CFR. § 1.75

Claim 18 is objected to under 37 CFR. § 1.75 as being a substantial duplicate of claim 14. Claim 18 has been amended to depend from claim 21, and thus the objection to claim 18 is believed to have been fully overcome, and is believed to be allowable. Allowance of claim 18 is respectfully requested.

Amendment to correct error

Claim 8 has been amended to correct a typographical error.

Conclusion

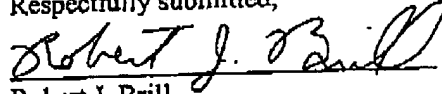
For all the reasons presented withdrawal of the nonstatutory rejections, the actual and provisional objections is respectfully requested.

NGC-195/22-0136

15

In view of the above amendments and remarks, allowance of all claims pending is respectfully requested. If a telephone conference would be of assistance in advancing the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call applicant's attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



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